BARNSLEY UNION

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Annual Report

OF

M. T. SADLER, Esq., M.D.

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1893.

BARNSLEY:
W. R. MASSIE, PRINTER AND STATIONER, MARKET HILL.

1894.

BARNSLEY UNION

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Annual Report

OF

M. T. SADLER, Esq., M.D.

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1893.

BARNSLEY:
W. R. MASSIE, PRINTER AND STATIONER, MARKET HILL.
—
1894.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b28903432

BARNSLEY UNION

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

GENTLEMEN,—The year ending December 31st, 1893 was decidedly warmer and drier than usual, there having been 5½ inches less rain and many more hot days and fewer cold ones than the average for the preceding 25 years. As usual, the hot dry summer caused more than the usual prevalence of Diarrhœa, followed in the autumn by a certain number of cases of Typhoid Fever, besides which we had Smallpox to contend with in the spring, and Scarlet Fever at intervals throughout the year.

Notwithstanding these drawbacks our death rate throughout the year has been very moderate, and important progress has been made in several sanitary matters.

The total number of deaths registered during the year were 190, to which have to be added 9 in different public institutions amongst persons belonging to the district. Of these, 3 were from Smallpox, 4 from Scarlet Fever, 1 from Diphtheria, 2 from Typhoid Fever, 3 from Puerperal Fever, 3 from Measles, and 27 from Diarrhœa.

As 143 new houses have been occupied during the year, it is probable that the population has increased by about five times that number, or 715, ond is now about 12,110. This would make our death rate 16·43 for every thousand persons living; and as 519 births were registered, the birth rate on the same population would be 42·57 or so much above the average for England and Wales as to indicate that the population has not been over estimated.

Of the deaths, 118 or 62.10 per cent. of the whole were under 5 years of age, and 84 or 44.21 per cent. were infants under 1 year, whilst the deaths of infants were 16.18 per cent. of the births registered.

All these figures indicate an unusually high rate of sickness and mortality amongst young children; far exceeding that common in the Urban District of Barnsley, which in other respects has a much higher death rate.

Amongst the deaths were 3 from Smallpox, one of them never vaccinated, another with very imperfect traces of vaccination, and the third a baby born 5 days after its mother fell ill with Smallpox. There were 4 from Scarlet Fever in Cudworth and Darfield, 3 from Measles in Darfield, Cudworth, and Carlton, 2 from Enteric or Typhoid Fever in Royston and Darfield, 3 from Puerperal Fever in Billingley, Cudworth, and Carlton, and 27 from Diarrhœa, of which 10 were in Royston, 9 in Darfield, 4 in Cudworth, and 3 in Carlton.

II. As in former years, a considerable part of the labours of your Officer has been directed to endeavouring to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

During the year 114 Notifications have been received of cases coming under the Act.

Each of these has been visited as soon as possible, and particulars ascertained and recorded on points affecting the probability of other persons being likely to take the disease,

such as the amount of bedroom accommodation, the number of occupants of the house, if there were any lodgers, or any nuisances about the premises likely to be injurious to health, also the source whence drinking water and milk were obtained, and the schools to which any children in the house were sent.

Steps were taken for the removal of any conditions injurious to health. In the case of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Smallpox, the schools were warned against receiving any children from the houses during the period when infection was likely to be conveyed, and where proper isolation seemed not likely to be carried out, removal to the Kendray Hospital was suggested, and insisted on in the case of Smallpox.

There were 15 cases of Smallpox all in the first four months of the year, when the disease was very prevalent throughout South Yorkshire. Of these, Woolley, Cudworth, and Royston had 1 each, which were well marked cases, detected and reported before they had been long ill, the patients at once removed, the other inmates of the houses re-vaccinated, and the houses disinfected, and in none of these Townships did the disease spread.

These were evidently imported cases, though the source was not always quite certain.

The patient at Royston lived in a house which was used as a poor-law relief station, and was visited by persons living in another Sauitary District in which Smallpox was known to have existed; whilst at Cudworth a woman went to visit her uncle near Mansfield, who was ill with Smallpox, and fourteen days after fell ill with the same disease. Her baby, born after she had been ill five days, was at once vaccinated successfully and removed the same day with its mother to the Hospital, but unfortunately had been already infected with Smallpox, which the vaccination came too late to modify sufficiently. The mother, who had four infantile vaccination marks, had the disease in a milder form and recovered, whilst the baby died.

The other 11 cases were in Carlton and Darfield, and illustrate the danger arising from mild cases undetected at first, and therefore not promptly isolated.

About the middle of March, a lodger in one of the houses at East Gawber Colliery had a slight eruption, and being only ill one or two days did not seek medical advice. A fortnight later the tenant of the house and his son were found to have Smallpox, and ten days later 3 others also had the disease. Fortunately they had all been vaccinated and had it in a mild form. A little later, a girl from Carlton Terrace who had been in service in a public-house visited by tramps, had a slight eruption which the medical man who saw her did not at first recognise as Smallpox. She went home and gave the disease to a girl who was waiting on her mother, but did not live in the house, and therefore escaped the re-vaccination which I persuaded all the other inmates of the house to submit to, and which saved them from taking the complaint. In the meantime, the girl had before going home slept in the house of an aunt in another Sanitary District, and she and a friend who had spent an hour with her both took the complaint very severely.

Again, at Darfield Bridge a man came from Rotherham, where Smallpox was prevalent, and ten days later broke out with the eruption, but the complaint was not recognised for four days, when he was removed to the hospital, and all in the house, in which were four lodgers, re-vaccinated, with the result that only one who had slept with the first patient took the complaint, whilst a man living two doors off who had never been in the house, not having been re-vaccinated took the complaint rather severely, but here again by prompt removal and re-vaccination, the further spread of the disease was prevented.

Considerable assistance was given in the prevention of the disease by the authority given to me to engage the public vaccinator to re-vaccinate in their own houses at the cost of the Sanitary Authority, any person who had been exposed to the risk of infection.

After the end of April we had no more cases of Smallpox in the Rural District, notwithstanding the fact that it continued to prevail in other Sanitary Districts not very far distant.

Scarlet Fever was more or less prevalent throughout the year, and 66 cases in all were reported. Of these 35 were in Cudworth, 9 in Darfield, and 10 in Billingley, and there were also 7 in Carlton.

Those in Carlton were all in the first two months of the year, the disease having been previously prevalent in the neighbouring Sanitary District of Monk Bretton. In April it appeared in Cudworth, and remained more or less prevalent fer the rest of the year. In August there was a rather severe outbreak in Billingley, and in November two or three families in Darfield had several cases.

As a rule it was of a mild type, and only 4 cases proved fatal, of which 3 were in Cudworth. It was not possible to do much in the way of isolation in hospital for this disease, as our accommodation was much limited on account of the number of cases of Smallpox from various other districts in the first half of the year, and of Enteric Fever in the last four months. Consequently we had to be content with keeping up what little isolation was possible at home, and with having the schools warned against infected families, but many cases on investigation proved to have arisen from children who had the disease in a mild and unrecognised form attending school and infecting their companions.

Diphtheria was less prevalent than in former years, only 6 cases having been notified, of which only 1 was fatal. This disease was dealt with on the same lines as Scarlet Fever, the schools being similarly warned.

There were only 2 cases of Membranous Croup, both in Cudworth, and one of them in a family in which Scarlet Fever had very recently occurred.

Two cases were notified as Puerperal Fever, one of them unfortunately fatal in a house in which were three children ill

with Scarlet Fever, the other a mild case of temporary rise of temperature after a severe confinement. There were however also 2 deaths not notified as Puerperal Fever, but occurring shortly after confinement with symptoms of Septicæmia.

Enteric or Typhoid Fever was very prevalent in some Sanitary Districts in the Barnsley Union during the last five months of the year, and showed itself more than usually infectious, but in the Rural District we had little more than the ordinary number. There were 13 in all, of which 7 were in Darfield, 3 in one house, and 4 in Carlton, where again 3 were in one house. In one of these cases there was a defective cellar drain-trap. Two of the cases were fatal, one at Darfield, and one at Royston.

Of diseases not under the Notification Act, Measles was somewhat prevalent at Royston in February and March, in June at Cudworth, and in August at Darfield, but the outbreaks were not so severe as in former years, and there were only 3 deaths from it.

From Whooping Cough there were no deaths.

Chicken-pox was rather common in Royston during January and February, and very prevalent in Cudworth from April to June, and Mumps was also common in Cudworth during April.

Influenza was also very common throughout the district in December, but the type was milder than in some former years.

III. My usual enquiries as to conditions injurious to health in the district by systematic inspections of the various townships and otherwise, have been made during the year, and the results laid before you in my reports read at your monthly meetings, when your assistance was asked in matters requiring your intervention.

As a result of the investigations made by myself and your Inspectors, besides many verbal warnings, 108 formal notices were given for the abatement of nuisances, and in 56 of these cases your sanction was asked and obtained for legal proceed-

ings to be taken. In only 2 cases however were such proceedings actually needed. In 99 cases the nuisance complained of was abated, and 9 were still on hand at the end of the year. There were 67 sink-traps disconnected from the sewers during the year, 66 old privies rebuilt on an improved plan, 246 yards of new main sewerage laid down in Darfield and Cudwort h

There were 26 samples of milk, 2 of butter, 2 of lard, 2 of pepper, 2 of coffee, 1 of cocoa, and 2 of mustard taken for analysis under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and in 4 cases prosecutions for the sale of adulterated milk were undertaken.

There were several cases of overcrowding, in two of which formal notices were served.

There were 57 plans for 150 new houses presented to you, after careful examination by myself and your Surveyor, and of these 5 were by my advice rejected for lack of proper water supply or other sanitary defects.

In February I had to report that two houses at Whincover, Royston, were unfit for habitation on account of the want of light and proper ventilation, and dampness of the only bedroom they had. Legal proceedings having been instituted, the case was not defended, and the needful alterations were made.

In May and on other occasions during the year down to December, I had to report that a sewer at Snape Hill, Darfield was imperfect, and caused by leakage a dangerous nuisance to houses at a lower level, but not until January of the present year was the defect remedied properly.

I had also to warn you in May and June, of the dangerous condition of a well at Lower Cudworth, and the neglect of certain owners of property to provide their tenants with the safer water from the mains belonging to the Authority. As a result, authority was given to take such action as the law directed, and these owners have now in most cases connected their houses with the water mains. In July I had to report the pollution of a stream at Lower Cudworth with trade refuse, and the offenders were warned with good effect.

I had also to report defective main sewerage at Hood Green, Stainbro', which has been remedied ; and an offensive condition of the river Dearne at irregular intervals, due to pollution by the sewage from Ardsley and other sources, which since the conference held in January last between the County Council Sanitary Committee and the Sanitary Authorities of the basin of the Dearne and Dove, may be considered to be in a fair way for removal. In August I had to draw your attention to the offensive condition of the pond near the school at Upper Cudworth, and to the need for an extension of the water mains in the same township. Several times during the year I had to complain of defective scavenging in Cudworth, and less frequently of similar shortcomings in certain parts of Carlton and Royston.

There are certain houses and groups of old houses in Darfield, which in my report for 1892 I mentioned as subject to excessive dampness of one or more of their walls, usually caused by their having being built against banks of earth or rock, preventing access of sun and air, the stone of of which they were built being also very apt to absorb moisture from the foundations. For the most part the dampness was in back kitchens, staircases, and parts not occupied as sleeping or living rooms, they had been inhabited often by the same tenants for many years, and I could find no evidence of injury to health in any case, so that it seemed certain that any attempt to close them by legal process would end in failure, nor in the over-crowded condition of many houses in the township was it desirable to drive the people out, there being no houses available but those which were already fully tenanted.

Under these circumstances you instructed your clerk to write to the owners of the property asking them to provide proper air spaces at the backs of the houses, and to make such other improvements as were desirable.

This was done, and during the present year the owner of one of these groups of houses at Tyers Hill did what was requested. The others, either because the land or rock behind their houses belonged to other persons, or for other reasons, have made no material alteration. The Parochial

Committee, who for some reason or other. seem to take a special interest in this matter, talk of appealing to the Medical Officer of the County Council.

Until they become a Parish Council probably no such appeal can be legally made ; but I for one shall be very glad to have Dr. Whitelegge's assistance and advice in the matter.

IV. The sanitary condition of the district at the end of the year was satisfactory so far as the prevalence of infectious disease is concerned.

No case of Typhoid Fever had been reported since October, none of Small-pox since April, and none of Diphtheria since the first week in December, but there were still two or three houses with Scarlet Fever in Cudworth and Darfield.

In the matter of water supply an important advance has been made during the year, Royston now having its mains laid, and a constant supply of good water provided. Cudworth is already served from the same source, but requires an extension of the mains to certain outlying parts of the township. Carlton has also water from pipes not so satisfactory in its character, but with a prospect of improvement, and Darfield has the hard but safe enough water of the Dearne Valley Company.

The supply for Hood Green, Stainbrough, has not yet arrived, but it is to be hoped will reach that hamlet before another summer.

Wind Hill, Woolley Colliery, is still in great need of water, but there is now some hope of a supply from Darton, which will also provide for that small portion of Notton which requires it.

Billingley remains, which has been, during the summer, in great need of water, and is likely, as the colliery workings in the neighbourhood advance, to find the yield of its wells diminish and its population increase.

Since the County Council Conference on the pollution of the Dearne and Dove, more attention has been paid to the

question of sewage disposal, and, in accordance with the undertaking then given, every township in the Rural District which can be shown to have been in any way polluting the river, has now a scheme for the proper disposal of its sewage. The Royston plans have already received the sanction of the Local Government Board, the land required has been purchased, and the works will no doubt be carried out in the course of the present year. The plans for a similar scheme for Darfield have been sent up to the Local Government Board as a preliminary for an enquiry. An acre of land has been laid out for a sewage farm for part of Carlton. A scheme by Messrs. Duncan & Pichard, of Leeds, for dealing with the sewage of Cudworth has been approved for that township, and also one for that part of Carlton, not provided for otherwise, by Messrs. Newton, of Manchester. Woolley will require something if the houses proposed to be erected by the Woolley Colliery Company are erected, and Notton, Billingley and Stainbro', with their small and scattered populations, do not at present produce any bulk of sewage requiring special treatment.

Except in Darfield, where contractors are employed, the scavenging and emptying of ashpits is done by the owners of property, and often great difficulty is experienced in getting the work properly done, and in fact a large proportion of our sanitary difficulties arise out of the ashpit system, but it is not easy to find a satisfactory substitute until the sewage disposal question has been satisfactorily settled, of which there now seems to be some prospect.

There are no offensive trades carried on in the district, no common lodging-houses, and with one unimportant exception at Royston, no place coming under the Factory or Workshops Acts.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

MICHAEL THOS. SADLER, M.D., Lond.,
Medical Officer of Health.

To the Barnsley Rural Sanitary Authority.

AREA OF DISTRICT—14,591 ACR

A TABLE OF DEATHS during the Ye
Union, classified according to Diseases, A

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages.							
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
DARFIELD	60	29	11	2	3	7	8	Under 5 upwa
BILLINGLEY	8	..	2	..	..	5	1	Under 5 upwa
CUDWORTH	30	11	4	1	1	5	8	Under 5 upwa
CARLTON	33	18	4	..	1	10	..	Under 5 upw
ROYSTON	44	22	10	2	5	4	1	Under 5 5 upwar
NOTTON	4	2	1	..	..	1	..	Under 5 5 upwar
WOOLLEY	6	2	1	..	..	1	2	Under 5 5 upwar
STAINBRO'	5	..	..	..	..	4	1	Under 5 5 upwar
Totals	190	84	33	5	10	37	21	Under 5 5 upwar

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken int

Deaths occuring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.	9	1	..	..	..	5	3	Under 5 5 upwa
Deaths occurring within the district among person not belonging thereto.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Under 5 upwa

POPULATION 1891—10,912.

93, in the Rural Sanitary District of the Barnsley
nd Localities.

rtality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children, under Five Years of Age

Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Fevers. Enteric or Typhoid.	Fevers. Puerperal.	Measles.	Diarrhœa. and Dysentery,	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Total
1	1	..	..	1	8	..	..	9	..	..	20	40
..	..	1	..	..	1	..	2	4	1	2	9	20
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2
..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	3	6
1	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	3	..	1	6	15
2	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	4	5	..	2	15
..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	6	..	..	12	22
..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	4	1	1	2	11
..	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	5	..	1	16	32
..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	3	2	..	3	12
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	3
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	3
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	1	..	..	5
2	1	..	..	3	24	..	1	25	..	2	59	117
2	..	2	3	..	3	1	9	19	10	3	21	73

count in judging of the above records of mortality.

..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	..	1	8
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

B TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRT
SICKNESS, coming to the knowled
1893, in the RURAL SANITARY DISTR
to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all Ages.		Registered Births.	Aged under or over
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1893.		
DARFIELD	3416	3660	161	Under 5 5 upwards
BILLINGLEY ..	195	200		Under 5 5 upwards
CUDWORTH ..	1607	1800	343	Under 5 5 upwards
CARLTON	1401	1730		Under 5 5 upwards
ROYSTON	2613	3020		Under 5 5 upwards
NOTTON..	269	280		Under 5 5 upwards
WOOLLEY	969	970		Under 5 5 upwards
STAINBRO'	442	450	15	Under 5 5 upwards
TOTALS	10912	12110	519	Under 5 5 upwards

Notification of Infectious Disease compulsory in
Isolation Hospital, the Kendray Hospital, for Inf

d of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS
Medical Officer of Health, during the year
HE BARNSLEY UNION; classified according

ew Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.						Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital.		
			Fevers.					
Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Puerperal.	Erysipelas.	.Smallpox.		
5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	..	..	7	1	7	..	4	..
..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..
12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
23	1	2	1	..	..	..	1	..
3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	..	..	4	..	1	..	7	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
20	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
46	4	2	13	2	11	..	14	..

strict since January 1st, 1890.
Diseases, at Ardsley.